Per cent

Date	Savings Bank	Fixed Deposits			Prime Lending Rate (PLR)
	Account	1-3 yrs.	3-5 yrs.	Above 5 yrs,	
1-4-1998	4.5	10.50-11.00	11.50-12.00	11.50-12.00	14.00
1.12.2003	3.5	4.75-5.50	5.25-5.75	5.50-6.00	10.50-11.50

(c) The reduction in deposit rates needs to be seen alongwith reduction in inflation rate during the corresponding period.

Heritage Sites in Tamil Nadu

*215. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on the Heritage Sites in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the number of steps taken or being taken to attract more foreign tourists to India by Government in the recent past;

(c) whether these steps have resulted in the visit of more foreign tourists to India; and

(d) if so, the effort being made in connection with the sites of Tamil Nadu during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) The following works for development of heritage sites in the state of Tamil Nadu have been sanctioned in the Tenth Plan so far by the Department of Tourism:

2002-2003 (Rs. in lakhs)

SI. No.	Project	Amount sanctioned
1.	Development of Park near the Shore temple, Mahabalipuram	200.00
2.	Development near the Five Rathas, Mahabalipuram	300.00
3.	Works at Gingee Fort	37.50
4.	Flood Lighting at Sri Brigadeeshwara Temple, Thanjavui	16.50

2003-2004 (Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Project	Amount sanctioned
1.	Development of Infrastructure for Tourism in Kanchipuram	259.40
2.	SEL show at Vivekananda Rock Memorial, Kanyakumari (Vivekananda Circuit)	225.00
3.	Floodlighting of Vivekananda Rock Memorial (Vivekananda Circuit)	32.13
4.	Construction of Five Cottages at Vivekananda Kendra (Vivekananda Circuit)	255.35

A part from this, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has allocated a sum of Rs. 316.01 lakhs for conservation of various monuments in the State of Tamil Nadu for 2003-04. The important works included in this are as follows:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the work/monument	Funds allocated in 2003-04
1.	Brihadisvara Temple, Gangaikondacholapuram	18.00
2.	Group of Monuments on the Hillock at Mamallapuram	14.00
3.	Fort and Rampart wall at Vellore	14.00
4.	Airavateswara Temple, Darasuram	15.00
5.	Kailasanatha Temple, Kanchipuram	8.00
6.	Ekambareshwara Temple, Settur	10.00
7.	Brihadiswara Temple, Thanjavur	8.00
8.	Group of Monuments Vallimalai	5.00
9.	Fort Thirumayam	10.00
10.	Apathasahayarwana Temple, Sendamangalam	10.00

(b) to (d) Promotion of various tourism products of India including sites in Tamil Nadu is an ongoing process and this is undertaken by the IndiaTourism Offices through advertising in the print and electronic media, participation in fairs and exhibitions, departmental stores promotions, workshops and seminars, internet advertising, dissemination of

information, brochures support and road shows etc. In the recent-past this promotion is being done under the Brand Line "Incredible India".

The foreign tourist arrivals in the year 2003 upto November have registered a growth of 14.6 percent over the corresponding year 2002. Foreign exchange earnings during the same period have increased by 22.4%

Completion of Water Projects

†*216. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to expedite completion of some of the projects, selected from the ongoing water projects, in 1996 itself under a new scheme;

(b) if so, the details of the projects selected so far; and

(c) the number of projects out of the same completed by March, 2003 and the total additional irrigation-potential brought about thereby?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (c) Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, investigation, funding alongwith priority execution, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects, including irrigation and flood control primarily rests with the concerned State Governments themselves.

Concerned with a large number of major and medium irrigation projects spilling over into Ninth Five Year Plan, the Central Government launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during 1996-97 for accelerating implementation of such ongoing irrigation/multipurpose projects on which substantial progress has been made and which are beyond the resources capability of the State Governments and for other major and medium irrigation projects which are in an advanced stage of completion and could yield irrigation benefits in next four agricultural seasons. 171 major/medium irrigation projects were included under this programme and an irrigation potential of 2195.086 thousand hectare was created upto March, 2003. A total of 24 projects could be completed after commencement of the programme and potential

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.